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Agenda item 24

NECESSITY OF ENDING THE ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL EMBARGO IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST CUBA

Letter dated 26 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a photocopy of decision No. 356, entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba", which was adopted by consensus by the twentieth Council of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) on 3 June 1994. I believe that you and the representatives of the Member States should be aware of this decision.

Accordingly, I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 24.

(Signed) Fernando REMIREZ de ESTENOZ BARCIELA
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Decision No. 356

Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The Latin American Council,

Recalling

Article 3, paragraphs (a) and (b), article 4 and article 5, paragraphs 1(1) and 4, of the Panama treaty,

Decision No. 112 on the application of coercive economic measures,

Resolutions 47/19 and 48/16, of the General Assembly of the United Nations, entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba",

Considering

The need to reaffirm, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are enshrined in many international legal instruments,

That freedom of trade is a factor contributing to the economic development and well-being of peoples,

The desirability of strengthening trade relations in the American hemisphere, in keeping with the principle of freedom of trade and navigation,

Decides:

Sole article. To reject the application of unilateral measures which affect the free conduct of international trade and are contrary to the principles of international law; and accordingly, to urge the lifting of the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba; and to express its support for resolution 48/16 of the United Nations General Assembly, which calls for the elimination of unilateral measures which are inconsistent with the international, political and economic context.

3 June 1994

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Agenda items 8 and 108

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

PROGRAMME PLANNING

Letter dated 28 September 1994 from the Chairman of the Fifth Committee to the President of the General Assembly

You may recall that at its third plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly decided to allocate agenda item 108 (Programme planning) to the Fifth Committee. It should be understood that each programme of the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as in the past, would be submitted to the Assembly in plenary meeting and to the Main Committees for review as far as they are concerned.

In its conclusions and recommendations on the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan, the Committee for Programme and Coordination noted that a number of proposed revisions had not been submitted to the relevant sectoral and/or functional bodies concerned. It stressed the need for all proposed revisions to be submitted to the relevant Main Committees of the General Assembly. In that connection, it invited the Chairmen of the Main Committees to ensure that their programme of work was organized in such a manner as to facilitate their consideration of the proposed revisions prior to the consideration of the item by the Fifth Committee.

I wish to inform you that the Fifth Committee intends to begin its consideration of the item on programme planning on 31 October.

I should therefore be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the General Assembly and arrange for the views of the Assembly on programme 6 of the medium-term plan (Elimination of apartheid) to be communicated to me as soon as possible.

(Signed) Adrien TEIRLINCK
Chairman
Fifth Committee of the General Assembly

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Agenda item 37 (c)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 44/236 of 22 December 1989, the General Assembly proclaimed the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and decided, inter alia, that in 1994 the Economic and Social Council was to carry out a mid-term review of the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the Decade and report its findings to the Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

2. Subsequently, in its resolution 48/188 of 21 December 1993, the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-ninth session a report on progress made in the implementation of that resolution.

3. The World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction was held at Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994 pursuant to Assembly resolution 48/188. A report of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the implementation of activities of the Decade (A/CONF.172/4 and Add.1-4) was submitted to the Conference for its consideration.

4. That report will be made available to the Assembly for its consideration at the current session in pursuance of its resolution 48/188.

5. The attention of the Assembly is also drawn to Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/31 of 27 July 1994, entitled "International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction", in which the Council recommends to the Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution on the subject.

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Agenda item 68

STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND COOPERATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Letter dated 26 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as representative of the European Union I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a declaration of the European Union on Algeria issued on 26 September 1994.

I should be grateful if you could have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 68.

(Signed) Detlev GRAF ZU RANTZAU

ANNEX

Statement on Algeria issued on 26 September 1994 on behalf of the European Union by its Presidency

[Original: English and French]

The European Union reaffirms its willingness to support a policy of democratic development and economic restructuring in Algeria and condemns all forms of violence there. In this connection the European Union recalls the declaration made by the European Council in Corfu on 24 and 25 June 1994. The European Union welcomes the renewed efforts to promote political dialogue in Algeria. It calls upon those parties which have not yet taken part in the dialogue to do so, and encourages all sides to create the basis for the development of a democratic society.

The European Union particularly welcomes the measures taken by the Algerian Government to involve the political leaders of the Islamist Movement in the dialogue. It is imperative to make all possible efforts to achieve peaceful cooperation among all sides. Therefore, the European Union calls upon all sides to cease all acts of violence immediately to allow a peaceful dialogue. It is necessary for all sides to participate with the aim of achieving political reconciliation and the restoration of stability so that normal life without the constant threat of terrorist violence may resume.

The European Union appeals to all Maghreb States to collaborate in the spirit of good neighbourliness to develop the economic prosperity of their citizens and the stability of the region.

The four acceding countries associate themselves with this statement.

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Agenda item 100 (c)

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Letter dated 29 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a review of the situation of the Bulgarian minority in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

I would appreciate it if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 100 (c).

(Signed) Slavi Zh. PASHOVSKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Situation of the Bulgarian minority in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

Historical background

The presence of a Bulgarian minority in the territory of Serbia is a result of the Peace Treaty of Neuilly, signed between the Entente and Bulgaria on 27 November 1919, by virtue of which, "for strategic reasons", lands belonging until then to Bulgaria and inhabited by a compact Bulgarian population were passed over to the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (since 1928 the Kingdom of Yugoslavia). This territory included great parts of the Kula, Tsaribrod (Dimitrovgrad), Trn and Bosilegrad districts.

Although article 40 of the Treaty of Neuilly recognized the existence of "Bulgarians, subjects of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes", the Serb authorities refused to recognize the Bulgarian nationality of the vast majority of the population in the area. They started repressions aimed at a forceful assimilation of the Bulgarian population, which appeared to them an attainable goal given the relative closeness of both languages and the sharing of the same religion. This was done in violation of the Treaty on the Protection of the Minorities, which was signed together with the Peace Treaty of Saint-Germain of 1919 between the Entente and the State of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, whose successor was the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. By virtue of this treaty, the new lands were ceded to the State of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes provided that the rights of the minorities were guaranteed.

After the end of the Second World War, the Bulgarians in Yugoslavia were formally given minority status, teaching in Bulgarian was introduced and Bulgarian periodicals began to be published. In practice, however, since 1948 the Bulgarians have been deprived of the opportunity to exercise fully their minority rights, and in fact were discriminated against on an ethnic basis. The Bulgarian population was subjected to psychological and police oppression and was instilled with fear of expressing their affinity for Bulgaria and the Bulgarian cultural and historical traditions. During this period, a number of Bulgarians were sent into exile to the camps Goli Otok and Sveti Grgur, while dozens of others were shot "in an attempt to flee to Bulgaria".

The ways and means of exerting influence on the Bulgarian population changed with the gradual normalization of the Bulgarian-Yugoslav relations. The Yugoslav and Serb authorities intentionally hindered the economic development of the regions in Serbia inhabited by Bulgarians. These regions were among the least developed in the country, being mainly agricultural, with primitive farming, almost no industry, low standards of living because of the lack of necessary communications, electricity, etc. The low quality of life, the high rate of unemployment and the lack of opportunities for individual and professional improvement forced the local population to migrate to the central regions of Serbia, where it lost its identity in the great masses of Serb

population. The depopulation of the area, and especially of the villages, became a constant trend.

Denial of Bulgarian ethnic identity

The established complex system of measures aiming at the gradual transition of the Bulgarian population from passive subordination to active assimilation with the Serb nation led to a limited exercise of the constitutionally guaranteed rights of the Bulgarian minority. At present, a great number of individuals of Bulgarian origin do not dare to declare themselves as Bulgarian during official censuses. This is a result of psychological pressure, direct and indirect threats and a tolerated local administrative arbitrariness infringing on the personal interests of those actively expressing their Bulgarian identity.

As a result of these practices, over the last decades, despite the demographic growth of the Bulgarian population, the official censuses have shown that the number of those having dared to declare their Bulgarian ethnicity has dropped drastically. Official data show that 54,391 people declared themselves as belonging to the Bulgarian minority in 1961; 49,791 in 1971; 36,189 in 1981; and 26,922 in 1991. Because of considerable psychological pressure, a significant portion of the Bulgarians have no other choice but to call themselves "Yugoslavs". An eloquent example is the percentage of "Yugoslavs" in the ethnically Bulgarian municipality of Dimitrovgrad (22 per cent in 1991) which is the highest in the whole territory of the Republic of Serbia. Others declare themselves Bulgarians and their children Serbs, so as to provide the latter with conditions for social realization and equality. The maternity hospital in Dimitrovgrad has recently been closed down and some ethnic Bulgarian children born at the nearest available maternity hospital in Pirot have been recorded as Serbs in the birth entries. The Serb name system, which gives the male and female family names the same endings (unlike the Bulgarian tradition), is being used more and more frequently through administrative means with regard to those who declare themselves Bulgarians.

The territorial delocalization of the ethnic Bulgarian regions carried out since the 1950s is a manifestation and a means of administrative pressure, preventing the exercise of formally declared constitutional rights. Almost one third of the Bosilegrad and eight villages of the Dimitrovgrad municipalities were separated from the ethnic Bulgarian municipalities and annexed to the neighbouring ethnic Serb municipalities of Pirot and Surdulica. In this way, the Bulgarians in the ethnic Serb municipalities, being a minority of the local population, are deprived of the symbolic educational and cultural rights which had been formally granted to them while their villages still belonged to the territory of the ethnic Bulgarian municipalities. Besides, the systematic fragmentation of the ethnic Bulgarian municipalities into different constituencies does not provide opportunities for representatives of the minority from the opposition parties in the Serb parliament to be elected. As a result, the only acting Bulgarian member of parliament was elected with the votes of the ethnic Serb Pirot region.

Violations of the right to use the Bulgarian language

The Bulgarian language is excluded effectively from use in courts and in administrative and business practice, at variance with the situation of other national minorities in Serbia, although there exists a constitutional ordinance in this regard. It is also peculiar that the local authorities do not permit the use of Bulgarian national symbols, a right guaranteed by the existing legislation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (arts. 11, 15 (2), 45 and 49 of the constitution). There are but a few bilingual inscriptions on the main streets in Dimitrovgrad and Bosilegrad. A change of the street names in Bosilegrad "in accordance with the Serb historical tradition" is under preparation. At the same time, the local authorities in Dimitrovgrad did not take the necessary steps to implement the decision of a referendum that supported the restoration of the town's old Bulgarian name of Tsaribrod.

Since the 1980s, teaching of the curriculum in the mother tongue has been abolished in pre-school establishments, as well as elementary and high schools (it has never existed at universities and post-graduate establishments), contrary to the provisions of articles 46 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and 32 (4) of the constitution of the Republic of Serbia. At the secondary schools in eastern Serbia (Dimitrovgrad and Bosilegrad) the Bulgarian language is being studied now only as an optional subject on a par with the foreign languages (English and Russian) for two periods a week, pursuant to an administrative act, while in Pirot and Surdulica it is not studied at all. In Banat (Vojvodina), the Bulgarian schools were closed down as early as the 1940s. Many ethnic Bulgarian pupils are noted in their school records as having Serbian as mother tongue. The results from the "open referenda" as to whether parents wish their children to enjoy their constitutional status are being used to reiterate the restriction of the minority's educational rights. It is indicative that the Bulgarian teachers are being offered extra pay if they do not teach in their mother tongue, under the pretext that Serbian is more difficult for them to teach in. A request of the Democratic Union of the Bulgarians in Yugoslavia for the opening of a Bulgarian bookstore in Bosilegrad has not been taken into account. Bulgarian language textbooks for the schools are not widely provided.

Violations of the right of the Bulgarian minority to enjoy its own culture

Some major cultural institutions of the Bulgarian minority have been done away with, and the establishment of new ones is being hindered. In 1951 the Bulgarian library in Dimitrovgrad was closed down and, with a few exceptions, its book stock was sent to the Republic of Macedonia. There is no Bulgarian theatrical life, with the exception of several plays performed over the last years (some of them being "translated" into markedly bad Bulgarian). The Hristo Botev amateur theatre in Dimitrovgrad, bearing the name of a Bulgarian national poet, was recently renamed into "Tsaribrod Theatre Workshop".

Violations of the right to profess and practise religion in the Bulgarian language

The Bulgarian churches and monasteries, apart from those declared Serbian, are in wretched condition, some of them being in ruins. There are cases of deliberately destroyed mural paintings and inscriptions in Bulgarian churches. The services in the insignificant number of functioning temples are held by Serbian priests in Serbian. Even the gravestones and the obituaries are written in Serbian only. Bulgarian historical monuments such as the Bulgarian war cemetery near Dimitrovgrad, the bone vault near Neshkovo, and others, are being demolished, or are left to ruin, in violation of article 11 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

Violations of the right to freedom of expression and to freedom to seek, receive and impart information

As early as the 1950s the newspaper Glas na Bulgarite (Voice of the Bulgarians) was suppressed. The weekly Bratstvo (Fraternity) for two years now has been coming out only occasionally owing to a lack of financial support on the behalf of the State-owned institutions that publish it. At the same time, local authorities often confiscate Bulgarian newspapers and other publications imported from Bulgaria. Mass media broadcasting in Bulgarian is controlled by the State, and its propaganda is in support of the policy of restricting the rights of the minority. The regional radio station of Nis broadcasts in Bulgarian for only 15 minutes daily, the Bulgarian programmes on the regional television of Nis last only 5 to 10 minutes a week and, moreover, they are broadcasted in markedly bad Bulgarian. Recently the cable television in Dimitrovgrad carrying channel 1 of Bulgarian National Television was done away with.

It is worth mentioning that, as the United Nations Commission on Human Rights Special Rapporteur Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki concluded in his sixth periodic report (S/1994/265, annex, paras. 124 and 125), public life and media in the Republic of Serbia are dominated by ethnic and religious hatred and extreme nationalist ideology. The State-controlled media have recently provided plenty of examples of anti-Bulgarian rhetoric. A climate encouraging acts of discrimination has thus been created, notwithstanding the existing legal base, which bans the rousing of national hatred (arts. 38 and 42 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)).

Violations of the right of the ethnic Bulgarians to freedom of association

A constant pressure is exerted on the organization of ethnic Bulgarians, the Democratic Union of the Bulgarians in Yugoslavia. The Union was duly registered for the 1990 elections, but it was difficult for it to participate in them since it was not granted adequate access to the central mass media. The central press accused the Union of being a "separatist" organization and of having a "fascist orientation". The authorities levelled threats at members of the Union's governing body. The Union's representatives were not allowed to be members of the electoral commissions and there was a reinforced military presence in the pre-election period, while the authorities systematically laid hands on the Union's propaganda materials. In 1992, the members of the Union's

governing body working in the Bratstvo ("Fraternity") State publishing house were warned officially that they would be dismissed if they did not give up their posts in the Union.

Dismissals (Assen Mihailov, Director of the Centre of Culture in Bosilegrad, 1992; Pene Dimitrov, the only school inspector of Bulgarian language and literature in Bosilegrad, 1994; all ethnic Bulgarian members of the strike committee at a factory in Dimitrovgrad, 1993) and threats of dismissal (Radko Stoyanchev, a municipal officer in the same town), illegal police detention, house searches, illegal confiscation of property (Vasil Stanchev, a lawyer from Bosilegrad, 1992; the brothers Leon and Vasil Nakev, merchants from the same town, 1993), police brutality (Kiril Antov from Bosilegrad, severely beaten by police in 1992 in front of his house), arbitrary legal prosecution (Dr. Marko Shukarev from Dimitrovgrad; Velin Stoichkov from Bosilegrad; and Zdenka Todorova from Nis in 1994), personal warnings and other forms of harassment are systematically being applied with regard to activists of the Democratic Union of the Bulgarians in Yugoslavia and other Bulgarian intellectuals who publish materials and make statements before the Bulgarian mass media or have contacts with official representatives of Bulgaria. This is being done in violation of article 48 of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). Earlier this year, the local authorities in Bosilegrad took steps to bring about a ban on the activities of the Democratic Union of the Bulgarians in Yugoslavia.

* * *

The Republic of Bulgaria has repeatedly stated that it has no territorial claims regarding any of its neighbours and no intention to interfere with their internal affairs. It is clearly in Bulgaria's national interest to develop friendly relations with a democratic, stable and prosperous neighbour. That is why the Government of Bulgaria is ready to cooperate constructively and in good faith with the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for the resolution of the acute problems of the persons belonging to the Bulgarian minority in the Republic of Serbia. At the same time, noting that human rights situations are a matter of legitimate international concern, the Government of Bulgaria finds it appropriate to keep the international community and the relevant international human rights bodies informed on this matter.

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STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

A. Introduction

1. In its resolution 48/201 of 21 December 1993 on emergency assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to apprise the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994 of the progress made in the implementation of the resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session. As requested by the General Assembly, an oral report was delivered to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994 by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. The present report, covering the period October 1993 to August 1994, is submitted pursuant to the above request of the General Assembly.

2. While the most severe phase of the emergency in Somalia can be considered to be over, the humanitarian situation remains precarious. There is still need for continued relief assistance for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, particularly displaced persons and refugees. The difficulties and delays being experienced in achieving a lasting political settlement at the national level have a direct impact on the security situation, which continues to impede the efficient delivery of humanitarian assistance and the transition from relief to reconstruction and development.

3. In spite of these obstacles, the international community, together with Somali relief organizations and personnel, has been able to make considerable progress in assisting Somalis in all parts of the country. The United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM), United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have continued their humanitarian work in the face of serious security constraints which have claimed the lives of many Somali and expatriate relief workers. There are currently eight organizations of the United Nations family operating in Somalia, together with some 30 international NGOs. This presence is vitally important, as only a handful of the several hundred national NGOs, formed during the last 18 months have developed capabilities to assume responsibilities now carried out by international NGOs. As another part of UNOSOM's coordination function, its Division for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs also provides logistical support for the resettlement of internally displaced persons and promotes the implementation of small-scale community projects. UNOSOM military contingents continue to provide escorts for humanitarian convoys, assist in the resettlement of the displaced and undertake some humanitarian activities, such as medical services to the population and the implementation of small-scale projects.

B. Food security

4. The food-supply situation remains serious for a large segment of the population. The monitoring of food security and possible food deficits are vital factors affecting emergency contingency planning. A Food Security and Crop Assessment Task Force has been established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP),

with the participation of concerned NGOs. The Task Force prepares and disseminates data and information essential for projecting immediate and future food requirements. Towards the end of each planting season, field missions are dispatched to assess the food-supply and nutritional situation in the country, the level of food crops produced locally and the likely supplies of imported food and food aid.

5. An FAO/WFP report in mid-June forecast that food-grain production during the 1993/1994 "Der" (secondary) rainy season would be about 44,500 tons, only one third of the corresponding output for the preceding year, despite a nearly 50 per cent increase in the area sown. The food-grain output during the secondary rainy season was estimated to be 60 per cent below the average production in the pre-civil-war period. The aggregate food-grain production in 1993/94, covering the "Gu" (main) rainy season crop harvested in August 1993 and the "Der" season crop harvested in January/February 1994, was estimated at 165,000 tons, which is only one quarter of the normal level. This serious set-back, due to the failure of rains in the main growing areas, points to the need for substantial cereal imports. Food-aid requirements for 1993/94 are estimated at approximately 343,000 tons. Pledges so far amount to 200,000 tons, leaving a shortfall of 143,000 tons.

6. In 1993, WFP provided large-scale emergency relief assistance to approximately 1.2 million people. By January 1994, the food-supply situation had improved and the total number of beneficiaries was reduced to 650,000 (130,000 direct recipients). With an improved food situation, the focus was also shifted from relief to rehabilitation schemes. By March 1994, the number of operational small-scale rehabilitation schemes supported with food aid stood at 550. By July 1994, the number had risen to 842, benefiting some 285,000 people per month. Through these schemes, WFP is assisting in generating employment, revitalizing the agricultural sector, reactivating a market economy and promoting food self-sufficiency. Donors provided 150,000 tons of food, with a total value of US$ 90 million, in support of these programmes.

7. WFP is currently distributing approximately 5,000 tons out of a monthly target of 8,000 tons through Mogadishu and its eight field offices. The shortfall in delivery below the target value is due to the prevailing insecurity. With approximately 20 per cent of resources now devoted to meeting the continuing relief food requirements, food-for-work (FFW) is WFP's largest single component of the programme. While in late 1993 approximately 30 per cent of resources was devoted to FFW, the proportion is now closer to 80 per cent. The programmes being assisted by WFP include the rural-development and urban-services sectors, assistance to the primary-health-care and primary-education sectors, supplementary feeding for children and other feeding schemes, resettlement, and reintegration of demobilized militia.

C. Agriculture and fisheries

8. Agriculture has traditionally accounted for two thirds of Somalia's employment and nearly three quarters of the country's foreign-exchange earnings. Farming activities continue to be seriously constrained by massive displacement of people and the slow pace of their return to their farms due to the prevailing

insecurity. While many efforts are being made by humanitarian agencies, the serious damage caused to irrigation systems by the civil war and the shortages of seeds and basic agricultural tools have not facilitated the rapid rehabilitation of the agricultural sector. In preparation for the main 1994 agricultural season, FAO distributed 300 tons of cereal seeds, 10 tons of vegetable seeds and 62,000 hand tools in cooperation with other United Nations agencies and NGOs. Plant-protection teams carry out surveys and, if necessary, spray areas infested by crop pests. In north-western Somalia, FAO rehabilitated two slaughterhouses at Hargeisa and Berbera. In addition, it distributed 400 oxen and 200 ploughs to 1,000 farmers. FAO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will soon become involved in a fishery development project in the Merka-Adale area, which will provide fish for Mogadishu. Numerous farming cooperatives have been assisted by the Small-Scale Project Programme of UNOSOM's Humanitarian Division throughout the country.

D. Health

9. Although there has been an improvement in the general nutritional status of the population and in increase in health facilities, mortality rates remain unacceptably high. Cholera, tuberculosis and malaria pose serious problems, and most of the basic health needs are still unmet. To address health needs of children and women in particular, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) and NGOs, continues to support 224 health posts, 60 out-patient dispensaries, 112 maternity health care centres and 24 hospitals. Some 860 community health workers, traditional birth attendants, laboratory technicians and Extended Programme of Immunization (EPI) workers have been trained country-wide. Since September 1993, UNICEF has provided supplementary feeding to some 713,000 vulnerable children and women, an average of about 65,000 per month. Additionally, some 950,000 children were provided with vitamin A supplements.

10. An outbreak of cholera was first detected at the north-eastern town of Bosasso on 12 February 1994. The epidemic spread to almost all regions of the country. Through a coordinated effort by WHO, UNICEF, UNOSOM, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and many NGOs, measures were quickly taken to contain the epidemic. Isolation and treatment centres were set up, water sources were chlorinated, and an effective information campaign was launched. UNOSOM played a central role by providing coordination through the creation of a Cholera Task Force and by mobilizing its transport and logistics capacities to facilitate the movement of health workers and cargo needed to fight the disease. Various national military contingents participated effectively in this concerted task. In the light of the diversity of issues involved in fighting cholera and in order to maximize the effectiveness of all aspects of the campaign, three separate subcommittees were established at Mogadishu and at most UNOSOM Zone Offices as soon as cholera outbreaks at the respective regions were confirmed. In addition, a UNESCO-WHO cholera control campaign in schools was started with materials designed and produced by UNESCO. A cumulative total of 26,197 cases have been identified and 1,050 deaths were reported as at 31 July 1994. WHO is now concentrating its efforts on the north-western part of the country, where the epidemic has not yet

abated, while UNICEF is continuing its chlorination of water sources to prevent any resurgence of the disease.

11. During the period under review, WHO has expanded its support to tuberculosis-treatment programmes at Mogadishu and in other parts of Somalia. As part of its malaria assistance programme, WHO is in the process of supplying anti-malaria drugs, laboratory equipment and supplies to Mogadishu and Hargeisa. Several NGOs, UNICEF and WHO have cooperated in the publication of Primary Health Care Guidelines for Somalia. WHO, UNICEF and Pharmaciens Sans Frontières (PSF) continue to cooperate in the procurement and distribution of essential drugs. UNICEF achieved its objective of vaccinating 142,000 children against tuberculosis and another 164,000 against four other preventable diseases, as well as 102,000 women of child-bearing age against tetanus, between September 1993 and July 1994. WHO, in collaboration with the African Medical Research Foundation, has established a reference laboratory at Mogadishu capable of diagnosing common diseases in Somalia. Training has been provided and assessments completed by technologists at Hargeisa, Bosasso, Garowe and Gardo. Other assessments are planned for Baidoa in collaboration with the International Medical Corps (IMC).

12. WHO continued to manage the supply of essential drugs and deliver them to most parts of Somalia through the Mogadishu-based Somalia Central Pharmacy (SCP). Extensive planning and stockpiling of emergency supplies enabled WHO to assist very effectively in the cholera epidemic. Following the outbreak of inter-clan clashes at Mogadishu, decentralization has been accelerated with relocation of stocks to Bosasso, Baidoa, Hargeisa and Luuq. UNOSOM cooperates with the relevant humanitarian organizations to ensure the continued supply of medicines to all parts of the country.

E. Water and sanitation

13. Throughout the country, access to safe drinking water remains limited and many Somalis are forced to use contaminated water sources, leading to exposure to water-borne diseases. In an effort to improve the situation, UNICEF, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), several NGOs and national military contingents have been supporting various schemes to increase the availability of safe drinking water, including the digging of new wells, the rehabilitation of existing wells and the implementation of water projects in urban areas. UNDP's support of the Mogadishu Water Supply System, which started in June 1992 as an emergency assistance project, has been of great importance for the Mogadishu area. It is currently suspended owing to recurring labour disputes which have resulted in threats against staff. In addition, funds for this project are exhausted, and UNDP is seeking urgent contributions to continue supplies and services until the end of the year. An interruption of this vital water-supply scheme exposes up to 1 million Somalis to water-borne diseases.

F. Education

14. In spite of logistical and security constraints, United Nations agencies and NGOs have provided substantial assistance in rehabilitating the education sector. A large number of primary and Koranic schools have been rehabilitated, and other assistance is being provided in the form of education kits, textbooks, incentives for teachers, school meals and the supply of equipment. According to some reports, the number of pupils attending primary schools is greater than before the civil war.

15. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has been assisting in the rehabilitation of Somalia's education sector within Somalia and also in camps for Somali refugees in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti and Yemen, by providing services through Education Development Centres (EDCs). In addition to Mogadishu, EDCs at Baidoa and Hargeisa and a Regional Programme Centre at Nairobi have become operational. A consortium of United Nations agencies and NGOs has pooled resources to print primary-school textbooks, with corresponding teacher guides, which are printed in the low-cost print shop attached to each of the EDCs.

16. UNESCO also launched a Somalia Open Learning Unit at the end of March 1994 and has conducted 40 workshops in various subjects. Using open-learning techniques, the workshops offer pedagogic and administrative training. UNESCO has also been instrumental in establishing boards of education which, in the absence of a governmental entity, provide much-needed coordination in this sector. The boards have appointed inspectors to visit schools and to collect data. In a complementary programme, UNICEF is providing support to some 400 primary schools. New emphasis is being put on support to Koranic schools, which have remained active throughout the disturbances of the past year. WFP provides school meals, incentives to teachers and assistance for the rehabilitation of schools.

17. While the establishment of a scholarship programme to enable students to complete university studies had been called for, to date no contributions have been pledged. A number of educational institutions with experience in this field have expressed interest in being associated with the implementation of such a scheme. Interested donors may wish to inform the Secretariat of their willingness to make funds available for launching a scholarship programme.

G. Refugees

18. There are still nearly 500,000 Somalis living as refugees in neighbouring countries. In 1993 and in the first three months of 1994, some 88,000 Somali refugees were voluntarily repatriated from Kenya, mainly to the Gedo region. UNHCR has provided direct support for the return of approximately 58,000 Somalis, while it is estimated that at least another 30,000 have returned unassisted. Following its overall success in the Gedo region, UNHCR closed some of its field offices in that region in order to be able to concentrate activities and resources in Middle and Lower Juba.

19. Camp closures and camp consolidation in Kenya have also been made possible by large-scale organized and spontaneous returns under various cross-border operations. UNHCR and WFP provide the returnees with food assistance for three months and a small package of household items. UNHCR, together with UNICEF and NGOs based in Somalia, is monitoring these self-organized repatriations. Other voluntary return movements by land and sea are being planned by UNHCR with a view to supporting the repatriation of 35,000 Somalis from Kenya, another 15,000 from Ethiopia and up to 5,000 expected to return from Yemen. UNHCR has been severely hampered in its repatriation and reintegration efforts by lack of funds and had to issue a special appeal on 1 July 1994.

H. Internally displaced persons

20. One of the other major problems being faced in Somalia is that of resettling the vast number of internally displaced persons. There are an estimated 400,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Somalia, with about 240,000 located at Mogadishu alone. The Resettlement Unit within UNOSOM is charged with the responsibility of coordinating and facilitating resettlement projects and establishing reliable data on the numbers of IDPs. During the past year, the Resettlement Unit coordinated the repatriation of 45,888 persons. UNOSOM has continued to take an active part in the resettlement programme, with support being provided by national military contingents for overnight transit arrangements, medical screening, transport and escorts. UNOSOM also assisted organizations such as UNICEF, WFP and international NGOs in the identification of beneficiaries and in negotiations with village leaders.

21. In early June, at the request of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) undertook a 10-day assessment mission to Somalia to develop a comprehensive programme for the resettlement of the remaining IDPs. The mission visited five areas in the country and held consultations with Somali authorities and representatives of the international community. The major problems identified by the mission included the deplorable situation in which IDPs are currently living; the lack of adequate security in parts of the country; logistical and transport constraints; and lack of a coordinated approach in addressing the problem. The mission concluded that there is an urgent need for a coordinated programme of assistance for displaced persons to be implemented through a phased approach. The current commendable schemes being overseen by the Humanitarian Division of UNOSOM would be accelerated in regions which are considered safe, with the aim of resettling 60,000 persons in the first phase, to last six months. The programme would be extended for a further period of 12 months to make possible the resettlement of the remaining 340,000 persons, with the hope that there will be sufficient improvement in the security situation in the coming months.

22. It is not expected that all IDPs will wish to return to their previous areas of residence. Taking this into consideration, UNDP has initiated consultations with the International Labour Organization (ILO), with a view to formulating a programme of employment and income generation for displaced persons, particularly in the Mogadishu area. It is essential that adequate resources should be made available to resettle IDPs and Somali refugees returning to their homes. The substantial investments made in overcoming the

terrible famine in Somalia would be made even more meaningful if the international community were to continue to show solidarity with the hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons who need to resume a productive life and contribute to the reconstruction of Somalia.

I. Demining and demobilization

23. Within the constraints which affect the overall humanitarian programmes in Somalia, attempts are being made to initiate and develop demining and demobilization schemes. Current demining activities are being carried out by UNOSOM, using Somali deminers. Thirteen demining groups have so far been engaged to work in areas where local authorities are cooperating with UNOSOM. By July 1994, 5,253 anti-tank mines and 2,223 anti-personnel mines had been destroyed. In addition, 56 square kilometres of grazing land and 60 kilometres of roads had been cleared of mines. UNHCR and UNESCO have jointly implemented a mine-awareness programme in the north-west and in the Galcayo area. The environment in which demining can take place will be better secured if the reconciliation processes are successful. That would enable UNOSOM to field more international staff to supervise and monitor various demining activities and to provide training to local demining teams.

24. An encouraging start has been made in providing assistance to demobilization in the North-West. A scheme to train 3,000 former militia members is being supported by WFP and other organizations at Mogadishu. In the Nairobi Declaration of 24 March 1994, the Somali political-faction leaders expressed their support for the concept of voluntary disarmament. Should the political leaders eventually honour this commitment, it will be possible to start a programme for the demobilization and reintegration of armed militia throughout Somalia. Many of them are teenagers who need training to facilitate their reintegration into civil society.

II. RECONSTRUCTION STRATEGIES AND EFFORTS

25. While relief operations are being continued, a parallel process of rehabilitation and reconstruction must be implemented. At the Fourth Coordination Meeting on Humanitarian Assistance for Somalia, held at Addis Ababa from 29 November to 1 December 1993, representatives from Somali regions, political movements and the international donor community reaffirmed their commitment to accelerating Somali control of the rehabilitation and development process. In the Declaration issued by the Meeting, the participants reaffirmed the commitment of the international community to unconditionally providing essential emergency assistance to vulnerable groups. They also stated their agreement that the Somali people should be fully involved in the rehabilitation and development process and must bear responsibility for ensuring an environment conducive to it. Assistance would be provided in those areas of the country in which stability and security had been attained. Moreover, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts should be sustainable and should contribute to enhancing efficient operations of the private sector in a free and open market system.

26. The Declaration called for Somali initiatives in establishing viable civil institutions and appropriate mechanisms to facilitate the reconstruction and recovery of Somalia. The Somali representatives committed themselves to establishing preconditions for ending insecurity; to establishing regional development committees to prioritize regional development activities and mobilize resources; to establishing a development council, composed of representatives of those committees; to accepting the principle of the right of voluntary return of all displaced persons and refugees and establishing inter-party committees to solve issues relating to returning refugees; and to establishing mechanisms at the district level to ensure effective delivery of services.

27. The donor community recognized the readiness of many regions to create the conditions necessary for rehabilitation. The donors agreed to give full support to mechanisms established to determine rehabilitation priorities and the modalities for funding and implementation of projects and also agreed to develop a common approach among themselves for the allocation of resources. They also agreed, among other things, to identify common institutional and security criteria for providing assistance to the regions; to provide assistance to prioritize development activities; to establish mechanisms for channelling recurrent-cost funding in a sustainable manner; and to coordinate donor strategies for supporting Somali institutions of management and economic governance. For its part, UNOSOM committed itself to working with all agencies and organizations concerned in order to strengthen the coordination of all aspects - humanitarian, political and peace-keeping - of United Nations efforts throughout Somalia.

28. The Declaration called for an aid coordination body composed of representatives of donors, United Nations agencies and programmes, NGOs and other multilateral and regional institutions and organizations. In response to the Declaration, the Somalia Aid Coordination Body (SACB) was formed. The inaugural meeting of SACB, whose membership includes major bilateral and multilateral donors, United Nations agencies and non-governmental groups, was held at Nairobi on 1 and 2 February 1994. At the meeting, SACB endorsed a Plan of Action, prepared as a follow-up to the Addis Ababa Conference, which reaffirmed that international rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance would be provided to areas of Somalia able to achieve levels of peace and security sufficient for long-term donor involvement.

29. The United Nations Development Office for Somalia was established in September 1993 as part of UNOSOM. In view of the long-term nature of reconstruction and development programmes, it was decided to transfer the Development Office from UNOSOM to a UNDP project. The Development Office would function as an integral component of United Nations activities in Somalia and in that context would cooperate closely with UNOSOM. The Development Office became fully established in May 1994 and is currently assisting regional authorities and their development committees in identifying priority projects for funding by donors and in strengthening their capacity to plan and manage the reconstruction and rehabilitation process at the regional level. The Development Office is also responsible for the establishment of the necessary institutional capacity that will lay the foundation for a future national planning and economic-

management mechanism. It is also providing secretariat support for SACB and its Standing Committee.

30. UNDP and UNOSOM are currently supporting the preparation of a Somalia country paper to be submitted to the "International Conference on Women and Development" at Beijing, China, in September 1995. A number of women's organizations have been established in Somalia during the past two years and are engaged in a variety of community welfare and development activities. Assistance to these organizations is being provided by the United Nations and NGOs.

31. UNDP and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) are cooperating in the formulation of a programme to support shelter reconstruction and low-cost housing in the north-eastern region of Nugal and to assist the municipality of Hargeisa in the rehabilitation of physical facilities, as well as the restoration of the municipality's governance and management capabilities. UNDP and WFP, in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), are providing management support to the ports of Mogadishu and Kismayo. A similar task is being carried out by UNDP and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in regard to training management personnel for the Mogadishu airport.

32. The Somalia Rehabilitation Programme funded by UNDP, with a budget of US$ 20 million, continues its activities through Project Implementation Offices (PIOs) in north-western, north-eastern and southern Somalia. The programme works directly with local communities to help them identify and articulate their rehabilitation needs and priorities and to design and implement integrated area-based strategies. Subprojects are currently active in such areas as school rehabilitation, improvement of wells and boreholes, establishment of water committees, road construction, small-scale enterprise promotion through cooperatives, agriculture, fisheries, frankincense production, credit schemes and marketing of produce.

III. IMPACT OF SECURITY PROBLEMS

33. The humanitarian programmes of the United Nations and international NGOs have been severely affected by the deteriorating level of insecurity. Banditry and lawlessness have been on the rise. In the past year, several expatriate and national relief workers have been killed in different parts of Somalia. In addition, kidnappings, armed attacks, threats and the looting of vehicles and equipment have been taking place with alarming frequency. Under these circumstances, NGOs and United Nations agencies have been forced to suspend or withdraw operations on various occasions. Consequently aid agencies are experiencing difficulties in recruiting and retaining qualified international staff. The costs of additional security continue to soar. The recurring flare-ups of inter-clan fighting that have troubled Mogadishu in recent months resulted in an almost total standstill of all humanitarian activities in the capital and its immediate vicinity for an extended period of time. This unstable environment has also resulted in a breakdown of the already difficult mechanisms for the settlement of disputes, particularly those related to the employment of local staff by international humanitarian agencies.

34. Organizations of the United Nations system and NGOs have demonstrated their solidarity with and support for the victims of civil war, natural disasters and epidemics over an extended period of time. An unacceptably high number of expatriate and national relief personnel have lost their lives. In spite of dedicated and determined efforts, the lack of a political settlement and the increasing level of insecurity are forcing many organizations to suspend or terminate their assistance programmes. With the reduction in UNOSOM troops and the uncertainty about the future of UNOSOM, the situation in Somalia could well deteriorate to such an extent that humanitarian organizations may simply become unable to continue their programmes in many parts of Somalia. United Nations agencies will meet at the beginning of November to consider modalities for working in Somalia after the eventual termination of UNOSOM's mandate. Consultations will also be held with donors and NGOs.

35. Despite the proliferation of emergencies elsewhere and the weariness of many donors with the slow pace of the national reconciliation process in Somalia, continued financial support is needed by United Nations agencies and NGOs operating in Somalia. While it is recognized that humanitarian assistance will continue to be provided unconditionally to meet continuing relief requirements, the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of such assistance must be improved. Moreover, if reconstruction and long-term development are to be addressed effectively, the establishment of lasting peace and security must be given priority.

IV. INFORMATION PROVIDED BY MEMBER STATES

36. The following information on humanitarian assistance to Somalia has been made available by Member States to the Secretariat.

Denmark

37. Approximately 5 million Danish kroner has been provided through an NGO for water-supply projects in 1994.

Finland

38. A total of 3,650,000 markkaa was made available to UNHCR and an NGO during 1993 and Fmk 1 million provided to UNICEF in 1994.

Germany

39. In 1993, a total of 15.7 million deutsche mark was provided for a variety of humanitarian assistance programmes and DM 40.3 million for food aid and for rehabilitation and reconstruction activities. During the first half of 1994, a total of DM 8 million has been granted for food aid and reconstruction programmes.

Italy

40. Emergency assistance has been provided through international organizations and Italian NGOs working in different parts of the country. Activities supported include reactivation of basic social and economic services, rehabilitation of the agricultural sector and water-supply projects.

Japan

41. A total of US$ 8.2 million has been channelled through UNHCR and UNICEF and 12.3 million yen provided for three projects under Japan's small-scale grant aid scheme.

Norway

42. A total of 23.9 million Norwegian kroner has been donated through UNICEF and Norwegian NGOs for relief supplies and for rehabilitation schemes.

Saudi Arabia

43. A total of US$ 42 million has been granted in support of relief and rehabilitation activities for the emergency in Somalia.

Sweden

44. A total of 123.3 million Swedish kroner has been granted in emergency assistance for the fiscal year 1993-1994 through United Nations agencies and NGOs.

Switzerland

45. In 1993, a total of 2.8 million Swiss francs was donated to United Nations agencies, ICRC and other organizations for humanitarian programmes. For the first half of 1994, SwF 0.5 million has been granted.

Turkey

46. During 1993, food aid and medical equipment valued at US$ 4.2 million were provided. In addition, 22 scholarships have been granted to Somali students.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

47. Since January 1994, a total of 3.13 million pounds in bilateral assistance has been made available, bringing the total spent from January 1992 to date on assistance to Somalia to £44 million.

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PREPARATION FOR AND ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS YEAR FOR TOLERANCE

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 48/126 of 20 December 1993, the General Assembly proclaimed 1995 the United Nations Year for Tolerance and requested the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to prepare, in accordance with its General Conference resolution 5.6, a declaration on tolerance. The Assembly also decided to include in the provisional agenda of the current session an item entitled "Preparation for and organization of the United Nations Year for Tolerance".

2. The Secretary-General has the honour to submit to the General Assembly a report of the Director-General of UNESCO prepared in pursuance of Executive Board decision 5.1.1 on the question (see annex). It is believed that the report will assist Member States in their discussion both of the proposed declaration, which is to be prepared by UNESCO, and of the course of action for the Year.

ANNEX

[Original: French]

Report submitted by the Director-General pursuant to decision 5.1.1 of the Executive Board

1. By its resolution 48/126 of 20 December 1993, the United Nations General Assembly decided to proclaim 1995 the United Nations Year for Tolerance and invited the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to assume the role of lead organization for the Year. In the same resolution, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session an item entitled "Preparation for and organization of the United Nations Year for Tolerance".

2. The above-mentioned resolution was brought to the attention of the Executive Board of UNESCO, which noted it with satisfaction at its one hundred forty-fourth session in April 1994. Inviting the Director-General "to take all measures likely to ensure the success of this activity," in its decision 5.1.1 (see appendix) the Executive Board also expressed the hope that the activities undertaken in this connection would go beyond the celebration of the Year. A programme of action designed as a follow-up to the Year, which might include a statement of principles on tolerance, should serve as a starting-point for a longer-term approach bringing to bear the whole range of UNESCO programmes with a view to implementing the core principles of our ethical mission: the promotion of a culture of peace, non-violence and tolerance.

3. The purpose of this report is to give an account of the way in which UNESCO has carried out the coordination mandate assigned to it. To this end, it first of all restates the principles of action adopted by UNESCO in connection with the United Nations Year for Tolerance (sect. I) before going into the details of implementation (sect. II) and reviewing the state of cooperation between the various participants in the project (sect. III).

I. PRINCIPLES OF ACTION

4. The programme of action with regard to the United Nations Year for Tolerance springs from reflections on the origin and development of the United Nations system, which celebrates its fiftieth birthday in 1995. The experience of the last 50 years has shown that the actions of Governments and international organizations have secured effective and lasting results only when supported by a true public-spiritedness. Thus tolerance, a personal virtue, is also a political virtue. By endowing social ties with strength and legitimacy, it enables organizations operating in the public sphere to work, each in its own field, towards the goals that were defined in 1945.

5. Today, this kind of activity is more needed than ever. International society, like many of the States of which it is made up, is in fact subject to the action of opposing forces. On the one hand, strivings for peace, political democracy, justice and development have rarely been articulated so fully. But

on the other hand, reactions of exclusiveness, nationalism, extremism, all manner of fears, racial delusions and group identity tensions are finding violent expression. No region is free from these aberrations.

6. In the face of so many new dangers, recourse to the law emerges as the best way of resolving conflicts. The end of the cold war has rehabilitated universally held concepts in this sphere. The spirit of the law thus appears to be the best guarantee of non-violence. But idealism is out of place in this context. Today's world offers too many examples of the powerlessness of procedural methods, particularly in crisis situations. The problem is that procedures can only be realistically applied if they are founded on a spirit of tolerance in every society, every population and every individual culture. As the Constitution of UNESCO noted 50 years ago, "it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed", whether it be civil peace or peace between nations. Hence it is imperative to mobilize all and ensure the commitment of all.

7. The task is, therefore, to promote a spirit of tolerance with a view to supporting and stimulating Governments in the constant concern to replace a world order riven by violence with a world order based on peace. Such action can be neither binding nor normative. The variety of situations, the history of different States and the slow and contrasting development of various societies rule out this approach. On the contrary, we should make every effort, particularly during the Year, to mobilize good will in favour of tolerance. The celebration of this Year will rest on the universal principles proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which UNESCO will continue translating into various languages, and on the specific manifestations of these principles in differing cultures. Thus through the example set and the initiatives that are taken up, the Year of Tolerance will make a contribution to shaping future developments.

8. Because tolerance, a personal virtue, is also a political virtue, it contributes to the effective functioning of the mechanisms of democracy and peace. Consequently all organizations of the United Nations system have as much a part to play as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in helping to bolster a spirit of tolerance with a view to better fulfilling the missions that have been entrusted to them.

II. PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE UNITED NATIONS YEAR FOR TOLERANCE

9. The United Nations Year for Tolerance should be a special occasion, but an occasion which is both particular and general, spectacular and continuous. The programme of action should likewise look beyond the Year itself to the future. This is why the strategy which has been adopted, following consultation with the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, is centred on two activities: on the one hand a sustained campaign to mobilize public opinion, and on the other an effort to produce a medium- and long-term impact in all circles involved with education for tolerance.

A. A sustained mobilization campaign

10. UNESCO intends to stimulate and encourage international, national, regional, local and private initiatives. Combined as part of an active campaign, they will make it possible to reach a wide public. UNESCO's overall aim is thus to develop an orientation framework for specific initiatives and, by supporting these initiatives, thereby initiate a process of rallying around the theme of tolerance. As a sign of official recognition, a special logo will be introduced in December 1994. This will enable activities conducted under the auspices of the United Nations Year for Tolerance to be readily identified. The process of rallying around the theme of tolerance comprises two distinct strands: the mobilization of institutional frameworks and an appeal to the public at large.

Mobilization of institutional networks

11. The main partners in this initiative are governmental and non-governmental cultural institutions acting as initial focal points for our activities at the local level. In response to the announcement of the preparation of the Year, many initiatives have been taken by States and, in particular, by National Commissions for UNESCO. For the most part, those initiatives have taken the form of proposals for seminars, meetings and conferences, some 30 of which have been approved as of this date. A series of events will take place (at least two every month) at the initiative of intellectual communities in every part of the world. The objective of such meetings will be to identify the causes and manifestations of intolerance in certain specific situations; hence, priority will be accorded to joint, regional and international initiatives. The variety of titles chosen for these events illustrates the extent to which the idea of tolerance, in each particular context, is bound up with numerous fundamental concerns: tolerance and ethnic minorities; tolerance and religious diversity; tolerance and the consolidation of democratic mechanisms; tolerance and the media; human rights and citizenship; tolerance and migration, etc.

12. The basic principle of the programme proposed by UNESCO is to establish a common framework for action aimed at supporting and encouraging a commitment on the part of the communities themselves. UNESCO therefore encourages the organizers of events to meet certain criteria and to be guided, at least in part, by a common agenda. Thus the draft statement of principles on tolerance will be submitted to all meetings before it comes up again for consideration by the General Conference of UNESCO at its twenty-eighth session. In the course of this one-year world-wide itinerary, the draft statement will be translated into many languages and thus provide common ground for discussion and reaction. In the same spirit, the launching of the project entitled "Landmarks of Memory" will help in particular during meetings, to identify specific manifestations of the idea of tolerance within the framework of a particular culture: an historic place, a literary work, a popular song, etc. A growing repertory of "Landmarks of Memory" will ensure the continuation of activities beyond the United Nations Year for Tolerance.

13. UNESCO attaches great importance to its publications policy during the United Nations Year for Tolerance. Some publications will constitute meaningful documents for the follow-up of activities for tolerance, such as reports on

regional meetings containing specific recommendations for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence, or surveys conducted on the current situation in the legal, cultural or academic fields. Thus, a world report on the teaching of philosophy, a discipline traditionally associated with tolerance, will be issued in 1995 under the title Philosophie et democratie dans le monde. Other, more limited, publications will highlight the observance of the Year. They include the publication and translation of classic works illustrating the bases for the spirit of tolerance in all cultures (for example, The Anthology of Tolerance, Images of the Enemy and The Role of Women in the Promotion of Tolerance. This anthology will be submitted to the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held at Beijing in September 1995). In this same vein, publishers must also be encouraged to participate in the effort to promote public awareness. Thus, a UNESCO children's book award will be conferred in 1995 on the work which best embodies the spirit of the United Nations Year for Tolerance. Also planned are the publication of special magazine issues on tolerance throughout the Year and the establishment of a "Tolerance" column in the UNESCO Courier (published in 30 languages).

14. Under the plan of action, mobilization will also include the establishment of a committee of sponsors for the United Nations Year for Tolerance. This committee will be composed of people who are well known for their acts or writings in support of tolerance and non-violence. During the United Nations Year for Tolerance, UNESCO wishes to highlight, in particular, the value of personal commitment. Thus, the 29 UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors will also play a leading role during the Year. All of them enjoy wide popularity with many different audiences. They include soccer player Nelson Pelé, composer Jean-Michel Jarre, singer Montserrat Caballe, tenors Plácido Domingo and José Carreras and violinist Yehudi Menuhin. Similarly, Goodwill Ambassadors from other organizations, particularly the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), could help to disseminate the message of tolerance and to mobilize support for initiatives of the Year.

Appeal to the general public

15. The mobilization of institutional networks must be accompanied by a campaign to build awareness among the general public.

16. The objective of the campaign is to ensure wide media coverage throughout the year 1995. This campaign will begin in December 1994 with a press campaign exposing all forms of violence and intolerance in the world, based largely on a study done by the organizations of the United Nations system and specialized non-governmental organizations. By arousing public awareness of manifestations of intolerance on a day-to-day level, the press campaign will help each and every individual to understand the underlying reasons for proclaiming a United Nations Year for Tolerance. The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of UNESCO might officially inaugurate the Year as early as December 1994 at a joint press conference.

17. A systematic effort will be made to ensure regular press coverage of events scheduled during the Year (conferences, exhibits, awards, etc.). Press networks will help to publicize events in different locations and will facilitate

interregional exchanges of information. The press can contribute significantly to turning the results of the programme of action into messages that are accessible to the general public. One of the most noteworthy objectives of the campaign is thus to involve the media in the effort to make the goals and functions of international organizations in the promotion of a spirit of tolerance a part of everyday language. In this sense, statements of purpose will provide the media with a clear definition of the philosophy behind our activities during the United Nations Year for Tolerance.

18. The stress placed on the diversity of approaches in the promotion of tolerance does not preclude a common approach that will have an impact on public opinion. Image has great potential in that respect. International dissemination of strong images showing gestures of solidarity and reconciliation can, beyond the emotional effect of the moment, stir the public conscience. UNESCO will propose allowing national and international networks air time on television with a view to encouraging the creation of special programmes to show the media's educational role, which is particularly essential in this area. The television campaign will be intensified between July and November 1995 in order to coincide with the implementation of the major activities in the international campaign for tolerance. The effect of the campaign will be heightened by the simultaneous observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and of UNESCO.

19. Awareness-building will also draw on the ordinary objects of everyday life. A range of souvenirs (posters, T-shirts, banners and flags etc.) bearing the symbol of the United Nations Year for Tolerance will be on sale at events during the Year (concerts, film festivals for tolerance, designation of "Landmarks of Memory". The object is to win individuals over to the very idea of tolerance. Already, the announcement of this awareness-building policy has elicited a large number of proposals, including for the issue of a stamp - the symbol of movement and exchange par excellence - featuring the logo of the Year.

20. UNESCO proposes that one day in 1995 should be proclaimed a "Day for Tolerance". This could be held on 16 November, the date of the signature of the organization's Constitution. Celebrated in schools of all levels, in vocational and technical training establishments, and in public and private institutions for culture and information, especially those involved in the activities of the United Nations Year for Tolerance, the proclamation of this Day for Tolerance will be a high point of the world-wide campaign. A plan to establish the chosen date as an international day for tolerance on a yearly basis will be submitted to the General Conference of UNESCO at its twenty-eighth session, in the autumn of 1995. This is intended as an invitation to prolong the efforts begun during the United Nations Year for Tolerance. An international day for tolerance would provide a permanent basis for the promotion of the ideals of tolerance in the future, especially through educational campaigns. Only education can provide a long-term foundation for the principle of tolerance.

21. As for the role of communication in promoting tolerance, the strategy envisaged in this area involves what is for the United Nations system an entirely novel activity, the necessity of which has been tragically emphasized in recent times. This activity has been created and developed on the basis of the results of UNESCO's work on the role of the media in conflict situations.

As has been apparent in the light of recent events, especially in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda, that role can be misused for purposes of incitement to violence. A plan of action has been established in order to create or strengthen independent media structures to provide populations affected by conflicts with a non-partisan view of the situation. In the context of the United Nations Year for Tolerance, this programme will be reinforced by sustained cooperation with various professional bodies in the media field, such as the International Federation of Journalists, the International Federation of Newspaper Publishers, and Reporters sans frontières - as well as with regional organizations. The aim will be to extend the existing experiments to other areas of tension, in the knowledge that factual and dispassionate information can help to influence behaviour in the direction of greater tolerance.

B. Educational activities

22. These activities will come under two main headings: firstly, working through institutions, and secondly, actions designed to improve young people's awareness and help the various actors of society in their endeavours to bring about changes in behaviour and in policies.

Working through institutions

23. Education for tolerance should be an integral part of the promotion of instruction in human rights as recommended by various United Nations conferences. At the end of the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 1993), a Declaration and Programme of Action were adopted and all organizations undertook to act on them. In this context, an integrated programme of action for education for peace, human rights and democracy will be submitted for approval to Governments in October 1994, at Geneva, on the occasion of the forty-fourth session of the International Conference on Education. This document will then be submitted to the General Conference of UNESCO at its twenty-eighth session. The results of these different conferences will lay the foundations for our programme, an essential component of which will be education for tolerance. A discussion involving the ministers attending the International Conference on Education, on the theme of education for mutual understanding and tolerance, will be indicative of the importance of this subject.

24. The results of this conference will be described in the next "World Education Report" (1995), a part of which will be specifically dedicated to education for tolerance. Additionally, in the context of the work of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-First Century, presided over by Mr. Jacques Delors, there are several studies relevant to the United Nations Year for Tolerance, such as "Racism, xenophobia and the position of ethnic minorities", "Education and tolerance", and "Tolerance and understanding between peoples". These studies are available to all Governments, to provide inspiration for their actions in the field of education for tolerance.

25. On the occasion of the United Nations Year for Tolerance, the consultative role of UNESCO in the field of education for tolerance entails the production of considerable quantities of teaching aids: manuals, information brochures, and teaching guides. The following are emphasized in these materials: improved

teaching of modern languages, familiarization with international instruments for the defence of human rights, a multicultural approach to history and literature, and education reforms based on experience gained in informal education. Most of these documents have been designed and produced in cooperation with specialized bodies, non-governmental organizations or associations; this makes possible a considerable diversification of the means of distribution. The best coverage of the subject, in both theoretical and practical terms, is certainly contained in the teaching guide entitled Tolerance: the Threshold of Peace. A Teaching/Learning Guide for Education for Peace, Human Rights and Democracy, which will be made public for the first time during the forty-fourth session of the International Conference on Education.

26. The strategy for institutional mobilization is supported by the presence of networks already in existence world wide which form an efficient distribution mechanism. The UNESCO Associated Schools project currently includes 3,200 educational establishments, and there are 4,571 organizations in the UNESCO Clubs network, spread throughout the five geographical areas. These two structures afford direct access to hundreds of thousands of children and young adults.

	UNESCO Clubs	Associated Schools
Africa	1 481	471
Latin America/Caribbean	192	581
Asia/Pacific	2 030	488
Arab States	64	192
Europe and North America	804	1 318

Promotion of youth awareness

27. UNESCO seeks to encourage young people in particular to become involved in a world mobilization effort through the launching of such special events as travelling exhibitions and international youth festivals. It was this aim that inspired the Day for Tolerance and an international children's drawing contest planned under the Associated Schools project.

28. A programme of festivals for a culture of peace and tolerance has recently been drawn up, specifically in the context of the Associated Schools project. It seeks to promote a culture of peace in potential conflict zones and in areas where conflicts have just ended. The main goal of these festivals is to trigger a process of growing awareness that enables children themselves to define their own role, and specific activities aimed at the promotion of tolerance in their society and throughout the world. To that end, children from different countries in the 11 to 13 age group will meet for joint reflection and dialogue and to organize entertainment and games in order to learn daily habits of tolerance from one another. The festivals will be held initially at the subregional level and thereafter at the international level in the form of a

grand closing festival. In accordance with the principle governing the organization of the Year, a number of guidelines will be proposed by UNESCO to maintain the key theme running through the festivals, while leaving scope for initiative on the part of the organizers. To date, seven subregional festivals have been scheduled, setting the pace month by month for a Year for Tolerance accessible to children, which will culminate in the major festival to be held in India in conjunction with the commemoration of Gandhi in the autumn of 1995.

29. Given that tolerance is primarily a personal requirement, a number of outstanding figures of our time may serve as models. The path that they followed offers a lesson in enthusiasm and perseverance that we may apply in our own lives. In that context, UNESCO will encourage the production of video films based on archival records, which through wide circulation will foster creative remembrance. Taking advantage of the fact that the United Nations Year for Tolerance coincides with the centenary of the invention of the cinematograph, UNESCO has designed a brochure to promote the showing of a selection of archival films and major film classics as ideal channels for a message of peace and tolerance.

III. REVIEW OF COORDINATION

Coordination with organizations of the United Nations system

30. Following the inter-agency consultation initiated by the meeting of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) held in April 1994 and circular letter No. 3341 of the Director-General of UNESCO, a number of organizations of the United Nations system designated focal points and reported on resolution 48/126 to their governing bodies. Some of the organizations, although not directly concerned by a campaign to promote tolerance, nevertheless expressed a desire to support the initiative, for example the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the framework of its social development activities, especially those relating to the status of women in rural areas. Other organizations are directly concerned by the International Year for Tolerance by virtue of their mandates and will assume a prominent role during the Year in the effort to combat different social forms of intolerance. We refer to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in their respective fields of competence.

31. In view of the scope it has assumed in recent years, the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees affords prime evidence of the seriousness of the problem of intolerance. This body, whose mandate is to provide legal protection for refugees and to seek a fundamental remedy for their situation, is dealing with increasingly numerous cases: the number of refugees world wide is now estimated at almost 20 million. UNHCR has devised a three-pronged strategy: prevention of the circumstances that give rise to expatriation, protection when it proves necessary and exploration of ways and means of promoting voluntary return. This strategy accords in many ways with the aims of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. UNHCR is particularly concerned by the fact that in a number of countries xenophobic attitudes and activities are targeted primarily at refugees and asylum-seekers. Alongside UNHCR's current

activities, the above-mentioned strategy involves the development of human rights awareness campaigns, educational campaigns targeted mainly at young people and activities designed to improve the functioning of legislation concerning refugees, activities that may be enhanced by the United Nations Year for Tolerance. Education in particular is a field in which UNHCR has expressed the wish to liaise with UNESCO so as to develop a strong message for the Year.

32. The International Labour Office notes that the goals of the Year tie in with its programme for the elimination of all forms of discrimination and the promotion of equality in respect of employment. In that connection, it will be important to include the international conventions concerning working conditions in the public information campaign on instruments for observation, legislation and redress against intolerance. Reviewing the range of activities undertaken by it for the promotion of development and social justice, the International Labour Office notes that the conjunction in 1995 of the United Nations Year for Tolerance, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women prompted it to design a multiple-activity programme of action, some parts of which are more particularly concerned with the promotion of tolerance.

33. Lastly, UNICEF notes that the proclamation of a United Nations Year for Tolerance in 1995 directly coincides with the vigorous thrust now being imparted by that organization to education for peace, tolerance and mutual understanding. UNICEF, in cooperation with Governments, other organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, is concerned in particular to introduce young people to non-violent methods of conflict resolution. Programmes have already been designed for countries in tense situations or at war. Special activities are also planned to counter the rise of ethnocentrism, racism and intolerance. Education for tolerance programmes overlap in many respects with UNICEF's education for development programmes. Two publications will be widely circulated in 1995 to illustrate this approach, which involves the integration of the concepts of social justice, the peaceful resolution of conflicts and respect for human rights in the teaching of tolerance. They are "UNICEF Education for Development: A Teacher's Resource for Global Learning" and "It's Only Right! A Practical Guide to Learning about the Convention on the Rights of the Child". UNICEF will attempt during the Year to lay greater emphasis on the promotion of values of tolerance among young people at the teacher training seminars planned for 1995. In addition, UNICEF's contribution to the International Conference on Education in October 1994 will deal with education for tolerance.

34. From September 1994, UNESCO will renew its contacts with the organizations of the United Nations system. Special representatives will visit each of them in turn to establish personal contact with the designated focal points or units interested in taking part in the plan of action.

Action by intergovernmental organizations

35. Among intergovernmental organizations, the Council of Europe has the most elaborate project: a plan of action coordinated with the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year. It was adopted by all Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the

Council to fight intolerance, xenophobia, racism and anti-Semitism in Europe. The plan of action is based on a three-pronged strategy: a European youth mobilization campaign, the preparation of European regulations aimed at combating racism and intolerance, and development of intergovernmental cooperation to that end in the Council of Europe. National committees have been set up in 32 countries and a European commission against racism and intolerance has been established to ensure the smooth running of the campaign and to attend to follow-up and evaluation. UNESCO will take steps to support and supplement these activities, particularly by helping to extend them to other regions of the world.

Action by non-governmental organizations

36. As evidenced by the plan of action, close cooperation has been established with the 600 or so non-governmental organizations that have status with UNESCO through their Standing Committee. The non-governmental organizations have set up an ad hoc group on "Tolerance" and scheduled a series of activities for the Year involving young people, disadvantaged groups and a broad cross-section of the general public throughout the world.

37. A wide-ranging consultation by the Standing Committee of local and national members aims at identifying, through a questionnaire, the various sources of intolerance in the world and activities by non-governmental organizations in particular fields with a view to making practical recommendations for the promotion of tolerance. To that end, the Standing Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations will also launch an international competition among member organizations to promote tolerance.

38. In addition, many non-governmental organizations will take part in regional meetings scheduled for the United Nations Year for Tolerance. Some were scheduled on their initiative, such as the meeting on "Peace and Tolerance" organized jointly by the Simon Wiesenthal Center, UNESCO and the United Nations, to be held in the United States in autumn 1995.

* * *

39. The Director-General will not fail to bring to the attention of the General Assembly any information concerning the preparation and organization of the United Nations Year for Tolerance that becomes available after the publication of this report.

APPENDIX

Decision 5.1.1 of the Executive Board of UNESCO

United Nations Year for Tolerance

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 144 EX/16 (Part I.B),

2. Noting with satisfaction resolution 48/126 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-eighth session, proclaiming 1995 as the United Nations Year for Tolerance and inviting UNESCO to assume the role of lead organization,

3. Recalling 27 C/Resolution 17 which recognizes that the universal nature of the issues of environment, tolerance and non-violence calls for their intersectoral application in UNESCO's work,

4. Recalling also 27 C/Resolution 5.14 which notes a preliminary draft of the declaration on tolerance, as well as the debate on this draft at the 141st session of the Executive Board,

5. Bearing in mind that the programmes drawn up under the United Nations Year for Tolerance may make an important contribution to the promotion of a culture of peace,

6. Notes with satisfaction the preparations under way for meetings which a number of Member States already intend to organize as part of the United Nations Year for Tolerance;

7. Decides to work out a programme of action, which might include a statement of principles, as a follow-up to the United Nations Year for Tolerance (1995);

8. Invites the Director-General to take all measures likely to ensure the success of this activity, and accordingly to prepare, for the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, a report on action undertaken and proposed by UNESCO in its capacity as the lead agency for the United Nations Year for Tolerance;

9. Further invites the Director-General to propose the following questions for the respective agendas of the meetings proposed under UNESCO auspices for the United Nations Year for Tolerance:

(a) Recommendations for a programme of action which might include a statement of principles;

(b) Recommendations on possible coordination of the follow-up programme of action for the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the programmes for a culture of peace;

10. Decides that at its 147th session it will discuss and prepare a draft programme of action which might include a statement of principles, on the basis of recommendations prepared by the meetings for the United Nations Year for Tolerance referred to above, and with the assistance of the Director-General, and recommend it to the General Conference at its twenty-eighth session for adoption in an appropriate ceremony;

11. Requests the Director-General to inform it at its 147th session of measures taken, in accordance with 27 C/Resolution 17, to ensure that UNESCO's programmes in all its sectors in the next Draft Medium-Term Plan and the next biennium 1996-1997 are interlocked to contribute to the diffusion of the spirit of peace and non-violence and the promotion of tolerance.

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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN EL SALVADOR

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) (A/48/842/Add.1 and Corr.1). During the course of its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information to the Committee.

2. Paragraphs 1 to 26 of the Secretary-General's report provide the standard information regarding, inter alia, the mandate and activities of ONUSAL, the status of assessed and voluntary contributions, cost estimate for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1994 and for the liquidation of the Mission and the disposition of the assets of ONUSAL, and the observations of the Secretary-General.

3. In section VIII, paragraph 27, of his report, the Secretary-General, in connection with the financing of ONUSAL, requests the General Assembly:

(a) To appropriate the amount of $12,370,600 gross ($11,132,200 net) covering the operation of ONUSAL for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1994, inclusive of the amount of $3,895,900 gross ($3,612,300 net) authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/243 of 5 April 1994, and the amount of $4,876,500 gross ($4,240,600 net), provided under the terms of Assembly resolution 48/229 of 23 December 1994 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1994-1995;

(b) To assess the amount of $12,370,600 gross ($11,132,200 net) covering the operation of ONUSAL for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1994;

(c) To authorize $2,698,000 gross ($2,535,300 net) for the liquidation of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 December 1994 to 28 February 1995 and to make the appropriate assessment therefor.

4. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's report that an amount of $189,546,731 was apportioned among Member States, against which payments of $156,063,638 have been received as of 30 June 1994, leaving an outstanding balance of $33,483,093 due from Member States. The Committee notes that in order to provide ONUSAL with the necessary cash, $6 million has been borrowed from the Peace-keeping Reserve Fund and $3 million from the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) special account (see para. 8 of the Secretary-General's report). As it has in the past, the Advisory Committee expresses its concern about the use of the peace-keeping reserve fund for cash requirements of ongoing missions. The Advisory Committee was informed, and is concerned, that to date a further $300,000 has been borrowed from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), where obligations still remain to be liquidated. The Advisory Committee trusts that every effort will be made to impress upon Member States the precarious financial situation of ONUSAL and to seek payment of the outstanding amounts from Member States as quickly as possible.

5. In paragraph 2 of his report, the Secretary-General recalls that he informed the Security Council in his report of 11 May 1994 (S/1994/561) that there were serious shortcomings in the implementation of the peace accords related to "delays in the areas of public security, the land-transfer programmes, aspects of the reintegration of ex-combatants into civil society, as well as non-compliance with the recommendations of the Commission on the Truth". The same point is reiterated in paragraphs 10, 11 and 27 of the Secretary-General's report (S/1994/1000) to the Security Council of 26 August 1994.

6. During its consideration of the Secretary-General's report on the financing of ONUSAL (A/48/842/Add.1 and Corr.1), the Advisory Committee was informed that there has been a public manifestation by the parties concerned in El Salvador of a desire to extend the Mission. The Committee was further informed that the Secretary-General will report to the Security Council on a possible extension of the mandate beyond 30 November 1994 and that, based upon whatever action the Security Council decides to take, the Secretary-General will report again to the General Assembly. The Advisory Committee understands that the Controller informed the Fifth Committee at its second meeting of a possible extension of the mandate. Moreover, the Controller has indicated to the Advisory Committee that under the circumstances, the consideration of cost estimates for the liquidation could be deferred. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that consideration of the cost estimates for the liquidation be deferred (see para. 22 below).

7. The Advisory Committee notes that there is no performance report for the period from 1 December 1993 to 31 May 1994. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that the financial performance report for that period will be provided at the beginning of October 1994, i.e., more than four months after the end of the mandate period. The Committee expresses its concern over the repetition of this situation, which it has experienced with regard to several other peace-keeping operations. The Committee regrets that the performance report was

not available when it examined the estimates. In this connection, the Advisory Committee requested and was provided with the latest information on expenditures (see the annex to the present report); it should be noted however that it is in the form of raw data.

8. The Advisory Committee wishes to point out that the estimates for ONUSAL are not based on an updated plan of operations. This shortcoming hampers a proper analysis of the budgetary requirements of the Mission.

9. Given the uncertainties and lack of up-to-date necessary information referred to above, the Advisory Committee would ordinarily recommend deferral of the Secretary-General's request pending clarification of the outstanding issues. However, in view of the fact that the commitment authority expires on 30 September 1994, the Advisory Committee, in the paragraphs below, makes a number of recommendations aimed at providing the Secretary-General with the necessary resources and authority while retaining the prerogatives of the General Assembly to reach an eventual decision once the situation has become clear and on the basis of the latest financial data.

10. The Secretary-General estimates the cost of the operation of ONUSAL for the period 1 June to 30 November 1994 at $12,370,600 gross ($11,132,200 net). Annexes I and II to his report provide a summary statement and supplementary information in respect of this estimate.

11. As indicated in paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's report, the Advisory Committee, in a letter to the Secretary-General dated 28 June 1994, concurred in the entering into commitments not to exceed $3,895,900 gross pursuant to resolution 48/243, as well as $4,876,500 gross pursuant to the terms of paragraph 1 of resolution 48/229 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses, for a total commitment authority in an amount not to exceed $8,772,400 gross for the period from 1 June to 30 September 1994. Thus, the commitment authority comes to an end before the current mandate expires on 30 November 1994.

12. In section 1 of annex I and section II.1 of annex II to the Secretary-General's report, provision is made for military observers. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, operational requirements for these military observers should have been properly justified in the cost estimates. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that after the destruction of weapons and munitions collected from the combating groups, it was reported that several caches of weapons still existed. The military observers' mandate is to investigate these reports and to destroy any weapons and munitions found. They also ensure that a link exists with the Salvadorian military on matters related to the implementation of the peace accords. The Committee trusts that relevant information in this regard will be available in any future report the Secretary-General may submit on ONUSAL.

13. Section II.2 of annex II to the report deals with civilian personnel costs. The Advisory Committee notes that with regard to both civilian police and international and local staff, the estimates have been prepared to take into account slightly decreasing numbers of police and staff for each month of the period through November 1994. However, the Advisory Committee wishes to point out that the civilian staff costs have not been calculated or justified in terms

of the operational requirements of the Mission. In this regard, the Committee raised a number of questions with regard to the staffing of the Electoral Division, the Military Division, the Political Affairs Office and the seemingly high level of personnel in the regional offices. The Committee was informed that a P-4 Electoral Officer post in the Electoral Division was discontinued as of 9 June 1994. Any future report by the Secretary-General on ONUSAL should provide a clear analysis and justification for police and civilian personnel in terms of the actual requirements of the operation.

14. As indicated in section II.2 (b) (v) under civilian personnel costs, an amount of $1,430,900 is estimated for common staff costs. The Advisory Committee was informed that the common staff costs include provisions for staff allowances, social security payments, education grants and travel, home-leave travel, expenses in connection with staff appointment, separation or transfer, as well as other payments (life insurance coverage on special missions, special claims, family evacuation travel and others). The Advisory Committee understands that these costs have been applied at full New York standard rates. The Advisory Committee points out that given the nature of ONUSAL, expenditure under many of the standard elements used in the calculation of common staff costs may not arise at all or may not be necessary to the full extent estimated. Under the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommends that the estimate for common staff costs be reduced by 20 per cent or $280,000.

15. Estimates for premises/accommodation are provided in section II.3 of annex II to the Secretary-General's report. The Advisory Committee notes that as of 1 October the rental charge for ONUSAL headquarters premises is expected to double. The Committee was informed that the Chief of Mission has raised repeatedly with the host Government authorities the issue of its obligation to pay the rent in respect of ONUSAL's premises. ONUSAL has put forward the position that in the light of the situation that existed in El Salvador when ONUSAL began its operations, the Mission merely advanced the payment of rent to the private companies concerned. However, according to the representatives of the Secretary-General, this did not exempt the Government from meeting its obligation under the status-of-mission agreement to provide premises free of charge to ONUSAL. ONUSAL has recommended to the Government that it make the necessary budgetary provision for reimbursement during the course of 1995. The Advisory Committee understands that the United Nations is still awaiting a response from the Government.

16. The Advisory Committee notes from section II.3 (b) of annex II to the report that an amount of $18,000 is proposed for alteration of premises. In this connection the Committee requests that, since the Mission may be winding down, the alterations at this stage should be kept to the minimum necessary to allow continued use.

17. Similarly, in view of the uncertainties with regard to the future of ONUSAL, the Advisory Committee requests that expenditures with regard to transportation operations (section II.5 of annex II) be administered with regard to achieving economies, especially in the large number of vehicles which the Committee has been informed are kept available to provide replacement during maintenance/repairs.

18. Cost estimates for air operations are provided in section II.6 of annex II to the report. The Advisory Committee has received additional information in this regard and notes that ONUSAL will use the helicopter on an average of 24 hours per month from 1 September to the end of November. The Advisory Committee is not fully convinced of the need to hire a helicopter on a permanent basis and recommends that this expenditure be reviewed according to the actual requirements of the Mission.

19. Public information programmes are covered in section II.12 of annex II of the report. The Advisory Committee questioned the provision of $146,000 for public information activities. As a consequence, representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that the estimate for DPI production costs has been modified, leading to a reduction in requirements from $146,000 to $56,000. The Committee was also informed, upon inquiry, that seminars scheduled for June, July and August 1994 have been rescheduled to take place between the present and the end of the current mandate. Given that a number of workshops and seminars are already scheduled for October and November, the Committee doubts whether it will be possible to carry out the full programme as envisaged. Under the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommends a further reduction by $26,000 to an estimate of $30,000. The total reduction under DPI programmes would therefore be $116,000.

20. As shown in section II.18 of annex II to the Secretary-General's report, an amount of $427,500 has been estimated as the charge for the funding of the support account for peace-keeping operations. In view of the nature of ONUSAL and possible reductions in civilian costs, the Advisory Committee believes that the contribution to the support account should be reduced; the Advisory Committee intends to make a specific recommendation in this regard when it considers the next report on the financing of ONUSAL which will include the necessary information on performance; pending receipt of that report, the support account should not be credited in respect of ONUSAL for this mandate period.

21. Bearing in mind the status of expenditures as shown in the annex to the present report, the Advisory Committee recommends that, at this stage, the General Assembly appropriate and assess the amount of $6,330,941 gross for the Mission for the period from 1 June to 31 August 1994.

22. In view of the uncertainties with regard to the future of the Mission, the Advisory Committee believes that estimates for the months of September, October and November and such appropriations as may be necessary in that respect should be considered again at the same time as estimates for the liquidation of the Mission are considered, i.e., after such decision as the Security Council may take on a possible extension of ONUSAL and on the basis of a further report by the Secretary-General. That report should include full performance data. Pending such reconsideration of estimates for ONUSAL, the Advisory Committee, taking into account the reductions it has recommended in paragraphs 14, 19 and 20 above, which total $823,500, recommends that the Secretary-General be authorized to enter into additional commitments not exceeding $2,774,700 gross for the period from 1 October to 30 November 1994. Taking into account the balance of $2,441,500 of the current commitment authority remaining after the appropriation of $6,330,941 gross recommended in paragraph 21 above, the total

commitment authority available for the period from September to 30 November 1994 would thus be $5,216,200. In exercising this authority, the observations made by the Advisory Committee in the paragraphs above should be borne in mind, especially if it appears that the Mission will in fact be winding down or will not be extended significantly or will only be extended with a further reduced strength and/or mandate. The Secretary-General's eventual request for appropriations in respect of the commitment authority he has exercised should be considered in the light of developments, taking into account possible areas for economy, including those referred to by the Advisory Committee in the paragraphs above.

Recapitulation	United States dollars (gross)
Request of the Secretary-General for 1 June-30 November 1994	12 370 600
Appropriation recommended by the Advisory Committee for 1 June-31 August 1994 in respect of actual expenditure - see annex	6 330 900*
Existing commitment authority remaining for September ($8,772,400 previously authorized (see para. 11 above) less amount for 1 June-31 August 1994 recommended for appropriation)	2 441 500
Reductions recommended by the Advisory Committee (see para. 22 above)	823 500
Additional commitment authority recommended by the Advisory Committee for October and November (see para. 22 above)	2 774 700

* Rounded.

ANNEX

United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador

Status of expenditures for the period 1 June-31 August 1994

(United States dollars)

	PRO RATA ALLOCATION FOR 3 MONTHS $	EXPENDITURES $	UNLIQUIDATED OBLIGATIONS $	UNRECORDED a/ COMMITMENTS $	TOTAL $	DIFFERENCE $
MILITARY OBSERVERS	97,500	124,569	25,765		150,334	(52,834)
CIVILIAN POLICE	1,587,525	1,270,244	41,236		1,311,480	276,045
CIVILIAN PERSONNEL	3,068,925	3,121,343	38,161		3,159,504	(90,579)
PREMISES	239,400	198,160	182,283		380,443	(141,043)
TRANSPORT	273,750	71,223	163,333	40,000	274,556	(806)
AIR OPERATIONS	199,500	6,794	13,988		20,782	178,718
COMMUNICATIONS	20,250	4,559	4,080		8,639	11,611
OTHER EQUIPMENT	21,225	9,145	2,813		11,958	9,267
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	158,850	116,067	32,249		148,316	10,534
PUBLIC INFORMATION	0	10,084	5,506		15,590	(15,590)
FREIGHT	0	100			100	(100)
SUPPORT ACCOUNT	222,750	213,750	0		213,750	9,000
TOTAL	5,889,675	5,146,038	509,414	40,000	5,695,452	194,223
STAFF ASSESSMENTS	689,625	635,489	0	0	635,489	54,136
TOTAL GROSS	6,579,300	5,781,527	509,414	40,000	6,330,941	248,359

a/ Commitments made but not yet formally recorded.